

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01346 162339Z
ACTION DLOS-02

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 01346

STADIS
LIMDIS
FOR DELIVERY BY 0800 ON MARCH 17

FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON FROM ENDERS S

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS:DEEP SEABED MINING

REF: STATE 64187

1. FURTHER TO OUR TELECON, I THINK WE HAVE THREE SORTS OF DIFFICULTIES WITH THE CANADIANS AT THIS POINT ON DEEP SEA MINING: (A) CANADA'S HEAVY INVESTMENT IN IDEOLOGICAL TILT TOWARDS THE LDC'S, WHICH BEESLEY HAS ENGINEERED AND PERSONIFIED; (B) WORRIES ABOUT SUBSIDIZATION OR SAFEGUARD ACTION AGAINST NON-FERROUS METALS PRODUCED FROM THE SEA BED (WHICH CURRENT NICKEL LAYOFFS EXAGGERATE), AND (C) CONVICTION THAT IN THE END THE UNITED STATES HAS SUCH A STAKE IN FREEDOM OF THE HIGH SEAS AND USE OF INTERNATIONAL STRAITS THAT IT WOULD NOT LET THE CONFERENCE FAIL ON THE SEABED MINING ISSUE. UNDER SECRETARY GOTLIEB EXPRESSED THE LATTER VIEW PUBLICLY IN AN ADDRESS AT HARVARD ON FEBRUARY 15.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OTTAWA 01346 162339Z

2. I AGREE ENTIRELY WITH YOU THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR WORKING FIRST WITH BEESLEY ON THE FIRST TWO ISSUES. BUT BEESLEY'S SUPERIORS WILL PROBABLY NOT BE INCLINED TO QUESTION HIM TOO CLOSELY ON THE ISSUE AS LONG AS WE HAVE NOT CONVINCED THEM THAT A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE DEEP SEABED MINING ISSUE IS INDEED A SINE QUA NON FOR THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO LET THE CON-

REFERENCE FAIL ON THAT ISSUE IF WE MUST. YOUR PUBLIC SPEECHES AND TESTIMONY GIVE US AMPLE MATERIAL OF COURSE, AND I WILL RUN OVER THEM AGAIN WITH THE CANADIANS. BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL ALSO FOR SECRETARY VANCE TO MAKE THE POINT DIRECTLY AND BLUNTLY TO EXTAFF MINISTER JAMIESON. THIS COMMUNICATION SHOULD REACH JAMIESON PRIOR TO YOUR ATTEMPTS TO REACH A COMPROMISE WITH BEESLEY. IN ADDITION TO STATING FLATLY THAT THE UNITED STATES CANNOT ACCEPT THE PRESENT PRODUCTION LIMIT FORMULA, THE SECRETARY'S LETTER SHOULD STATE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED TO EXPLORE A VARIETY OF BILATERAL AND/OR MULTILATERAL MEANS OF MEETING THE SUBSIDY AND SAFEGUARD CONCERNS THAT CANADA HAS RAISED, AND ASK JAMIESON'S ASSISTANCE IN FINDING A WAY FOR CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES TO REACH A NON-CONTRADICTIONARY POSITION SO THAT THE NEGOTIATION CAN GO AHEAD.

3. IN FOUR RECENT CASES (GAS PIPE PROCUREMENT, KITIMAT OIL LINE, URANIUM ANTI-TRUST AND MARITIME BOUNDARY/RE-SOURCES) THE CANADIANS HAVE CLAIMED PRESSING POLITICAL NEED TO JUSTIFY ACTIONS THAT WERE NOT RESPONSIVE TO OUR INTERESTS OR AFFECTED OUR INTERESTS ADVERSELY. IN ONE CASE (URANIUM ANTI-TRUST) JAMIESON CALLED THE SECRETARY DIRECTLY. THE CANADIANS OWE US A COUPLE ON THESE AND WE SHOULD TRY TO CASH IN ON THIS ISSUE.

4. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD NOT EXCLUDE, BUT RATHER SET THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 OTTAWA 01346 162339Z

STAGE FOR FURTHER CONTACT BETWEEN YOU AND JAMIESON. I BELIEVE ALSO THAT AS SOON AS YOU HAVE MADE DETAILED PROPOSALS TO BEESLEY I SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS THEM WITH THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES PRINCIPALS HERE AS WELL.

5. WITH MUCH REGARD. ENDERS

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